



The Holy Post

July 2021

What about this word impossible? It has haunted mankind from the beginning of time. Though we have learned time and time again that the impossible becomes possible when the right people are put to work on it! Who would have thought that you could make a fire by rubbing sticks together? Some people find it hard to believe, still! Who would have believed that you could send talking messages right through the air, clear to the other side of the earth and beyond? I remember the early days of TV when they were just getting “line of site” satellites working and sending TV images around the globe for the first time. In the early 1950’s my mom and dad never believed we would ever get to the moon. After all it was 250,000 miles away. Some people still don’t believe WE MADE IT!

There are so many times when I hear non-believers mock us for believing the incredible things that are within the Bible. They are stunned that we would even consider such Poppycock. Yet, these things remain true. Nothing is impossible with God! Science is built upon trial and error... upon detailed investigation... upon proving what is not true as well as what is. The Bible has been attacked over and over again and yet it is still the bestselling book in human history. That in itself speaks volumes. It remains a bridge from the time of Genesis to today, for men to speak to each other about all that has changed and all that has not! Even the religions that are not Christian share many of the same stories and trust that they are truth. Can so many be wrong and so few be right?

As any politician will tell you, today... “Truth is irrelevant... perception is everything!” So, if I tell you something is truth long enough, you will eventually come to believe it or your children will. That’s their belief. The problem with that is that their (false) truth keeps changing and that means they have to keep changing the lies that go along with it! It may take time, but eventually, no lie that they can tell becomes believable to anyone... and apocalypse follows! Even now... who believes anything that a politician or the media tells them...

I'll stay with the one truth that I know. The one that never, ever changes... How about you?

Phil



Happy
Birthday



Harold Corn 1st
Steve Harshman 21st
Alice Kernodle 22nd

Michael & Michele Irish 27th
27th

Anniversaries



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Our new Nursery!



Are You Ready for the Monsoon Season?

It arrives every year as part of our summer experience. But first comes the fire season. Our typical, unbearably dry spring gets heated up during the longer days of the summer sun. The forest becomes a tinderbox. Restrictions are enacted, Forest service firefighting crews get ready, and prayers are offered. There are always fires, and rumors of fires, and lots of smoke, and worries that more fires will ravage the land. When a fire ignites, fire fighting crews are sent to battle the blaze, and we cheer as reports from their efforts confirm that containment is achieved. But we also know that the fire season will only come to an end when the Monsoon season arrives in earnest. So, we are always ready for its relief to arrive. We can't wait for the moisture to saturate the forest, and for temperatures to drop. The mountains rejoice and the trees clap their hands when the Monsoon season arrives, and we join in the celebration. We can't help ourselves. Deliverance affects us that way. There is no true rejoicing of the soul apart from being saved from imminent danger.

We go through this cycle year after year. Danger, Deliverance, Danger, Deliverance, Danger, Deliverance ... But what if we could be delivered once and for all, never to be endangered again? That would be good news. It is the kind of good news that the rainbow proclaims. It is a sign that God will never destroy the earth again with water. Yes, the Monsoons can deliver us from the threat of fire, but too much water causes its own dangers. And while we have localized floods, there won't be one like there was in Noah's day. But, the bad news is that God will destroy the world again one day, and when that day comes, it will be with fire (2 Peter 3:10).

So, like with all impending disasters, we look forward to God's deliverance. His plan calls for a new heaven and a new earth. No one fully understands what that is going to be like, because God hasn't revealed the details yet, but He has told us that it will be a place in which righteousness dwells. It will be a better place where all of God's children will be safe from any danger.

But we don't have to wait for its arrival to celebrate. We can look forward to His deliverance in faith and we can begin the celebration now. For in Christ, Our Savior, we look forward to God's deliverance.



Who's Who in the Pews



Andrew Green: came to Los Alamos in the mid '80s from New Jersey. Left early 90s, returned early 2000s. Both times were for work.

Hobbies come and go: running, art, woodworking, model trains, reading, gardening. (Probably others)

Hopes for the future include continued well-being for his family and friends.

Something I really value at church is the wide admission of imperfections in ourselves, and the tolerance of the same in others.

Eileen and my children, Harry and Andre, are in their 20s.

The Frame Game Who Is This?



Last Month Was Gretchen Kierstead



We need volunteers for our Hospitality

Ministry So happy to be able to start this up again with your help. *If you would like to be part of this ministry, simply see Gretchen.*

The Hospitality Ministry has three parts:

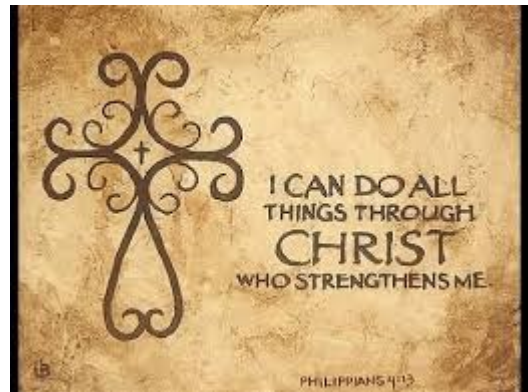
Greeter 1 – Open up the Church Building and prepare coffee/tea/hot chocolate, setting them out along with the donuts.

Greeter 2 – Greet people with a smile, handshake (or fist bump) as they come in the church, helping with any questions they might have, offering a welcome mug to new guests and reconnecting after the service as they leave.

Greeter 3 – Closing up the Church; Straighten up the Sanctuary, clean up the welcome booth and coffee, empty trash as needed, turn off all lights and fans, check that all windows and doors are closed and locked.

From the Elders: Dem Bones

Dem Bones is an old spiritual, sung throughout the ages, and taught to children as a reminder of God's great power over death and despair. It comes from the book of Ezekiel, chapter 37, verses 1 - 14.



Ezekiel connected dem dry bones Ezekiel connected dem dry bones
Ezekiel connected dem dry bones Now I hear the word of the Lord

Well, your toe bone connected to your foot bone Your foot bone connected to your heel bone
Your heel bone connected to your ankle bone Your ankle bone connected to your leg bone
Your leg bone... to your knee bone... to your thigh bone... to your hip bone... to your back bone...
to your shoulder bone... to your neck bone... to your head bone
I hear the word of the Lord!

It's a catchy song, and a good one to teach your children because not only does it teach that our hope is in the Lord, but also that we are all connected, and we all serve an intended purpose. We urge you to look up Romans 12:5 and 1 Corinthians 12:12, and read these passages in their context to get a better understanding of what and who we should be!

The Bible talks about the church being the Body of Christ. Christ is the Head, we make up the rest of the body. So, the Lord uses our familiarity with the human body to give us a mental picture of what the church looks like. The Bible only presents a few insights into what parts make up the church. As the body, these parts are sometimes referred to as "believers," "saints," "children," or "brothers and sisters," among others, denoting our standing before God or our relationship to one another. Regarding church functions, we find three basic ones mentioned: 1) members of the body, 2) deacons (servants), and 3) elders (shepherds/overseers).

This important message will be concluded in next month's Holy Post

This is the time of year that we, as a collective body, seek God's direction in selecting those among us who have shown the heart and desire to serve the body in these functional roles. So, we ask that as you consider the passages concerning each functional part of the body, to take the time to look around you and see who it is that God has placed His hand on for the purpose of "...being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose." Philippians 2:2.



J U L Y C E L E B R A T I O N S

Faith Promise Update:

We are so grateful for God's provision through you for the Missions our church supports. As it stands right now, we have received commitments totaling an annual \$30,900. We are continuing to tally commitment cards as they come in this week to determine our Missions budget for this year (June 2021 – May 2022). In order to make our current commitments, another \$8,000 is still needed.

So, if you haven't mailed your commitment card back yet or have lost the card, you can simply write the amount you would like to commit to missions on a piece of paper indicating the frequency of your giving (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, annually,) and drop it in the mail, put it on Gretchen's desk or in the collection plate next Sunday. You do not need to put your name on your commitment as it is between you and the Lord.

If you have any questions about the missions we support or would like to be involved by being part of the missions committee, please don't hesitate to reply to this email or contact Kathy Anderson, our missions MAC (ministry area coordinator) at kit5887@gmail.com.

Let's ride together! If you are interested in going and returning together, we have a church van that may accommodate two or three families pending luggage. Talk with Pastor Steve of this possibility.



Camp Season is Here

Youth and Family Camp costs and dates are on El Porvenir Christian Camp's website. All registrations for El Porvenir Christian Camp are online. You can still pay through the church office. Contact Steve Bublitz if you have any questions about the camp.

www.elporvenircamp.com

See our website at:

www.lachristian.org

Update! Learning Environment CQI

(Continuous Quality Improvements)

After input from parents, Cathy Hadley has been painting nature scenes in the infant and toddler rooms.

Erica Rock, along with Karen Edwards, Joe, Marty Arellano, and with Barb Hanson past research in mind, they are selecting cabinetry and furnishings for the downstairs rooms.



Blinds: All downstairs blinds are now installed. Safety door locks were installed during church work week. We are being pro active in case of an active shooter incident.

Updates to
our Building
for 2020



Thank you to
our Aesthetics
Committee

The art department has been busy lately. We received budget approval from the board to continue with the decorative improvements for the education wing, mainly carpet and paint to coordinate with the rest of the building. Since our crowds are down, and not many activities were going on room to room, we took this opportunity to tackle this very big project.. This particular project was headed up by Steve Bublitz, our youth coordinator.

In 2011, Sandy Rayburn and Joanna Gillespie began an organized aesthetics committee to proceed with artistic improvements in decor and room function church-wide. The idea was to continue with the efforts Joanna started prior to that in the upstairs classrooms, bringing the look into the 21st century with bold accent walls, and coordinated window shades. Both with an art background, Joanna specialized in floral and window displays, and Sandy had fine art and interior design experience. We discovered we were of one mind with direction and purpose, which aided in our efforts and also created some fun!

We brainstormed lots of ideas, and set some goals, the main one being to take our building out of the '70s. One of our philosophies was borrowed from Will Rogers: "You never have a second chance to make a first impression," meaning, what do people see when they walk through your door for the first time? Public appeal is paramount. The over-riding purpose was to coordinate the entire building, having continuity throughout. Another vision we had was the pursuit of excellence in all we do.

With those visions in mind, we made some plans, aiming toward beauty, safety, function, organization and comfort. Beautification and organization are two sides of the same coin. If you do one, to some extent you do the other.

We sponsored two all-church rummage sales to raise money for our initial lobby project, which was "neutralizing the background" so that any decor could function within it. And, we wanted to work with the wood trim color, and the sanctuary color we already had in place. So, we started with paint. Paint is the easiest and quickest (and usually the cheapest) way to make significant changes in the look of a room—or an entire building. And, it is the most forgiving. The industry theory is, "it's only paint. If you hate it, you change it." Some of our projects we did ourselves with volunteers, and some we tasked to professionals.



Father's Day
with the folks
from the
Los Alamos
Christian
Church





Mayhem with the Mertzzes

At 1:35 am this morning, Myrt Mertz was rushed to the Los Alamos Hospital. It was a tense drive. She moaned and squirmed in the car, as Bert speed thru the city, trying to avoid any ticket happy police patrols. All the way there, he kept telling Myrt that he wanted no part in delivering their new baby. BABY????? Yes, Mryt was pregnant and having her baby. RIGHT NOW!!!

They just made it. As she was rushed into emergency care, they passed another mother having her baby in a car parked in front of the doors. What a night for babies!

Members of the church were stunned Sunday morning, as they heard the news.

"Why I had no idea" said Sally Nolen "I just thought she was... well, shall we say changing dress sizes."

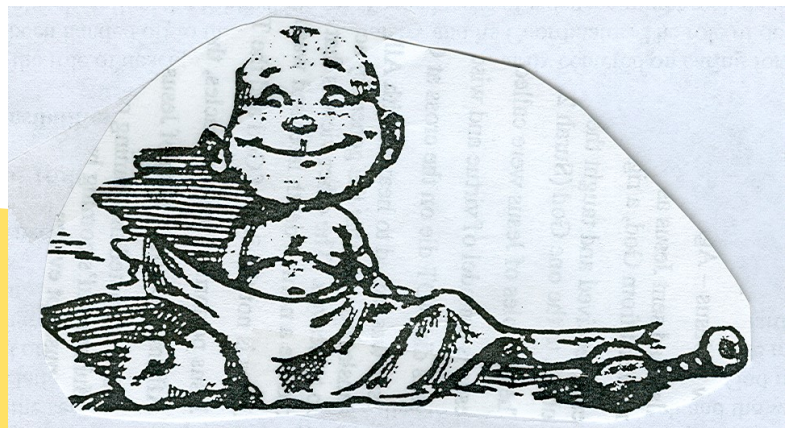
Evan Anderson said. "That's Legit, man. I just thought she was getting, like Crazy Fat!"

Cathy Hadley said. "I noticed right away that she was layering her clothes. I can't believe everyone didn't know. She was, like getting ginormous!"

Janice Gross said. "I did kind of wonder, when at the last Pot Luck we had she was eating carrot cake with green chilies, ice cream and salsa."

Mertzzes were coming to town from all over the country. Bert prayed all morning long for the town to have the strength to handle them!

Well... here he is folks. Welcome to Farvel Martin Mertz, named after his great, great grandfather, the finest lumberjack Toolie Trench, Tennessee ever saw. Timber Toolie was the title, train trestle trackman told tales of, in Toolie Trench, Tennessee.



Is Myrt really getting like Crazy Fat?
Is Farvel a ginormous baby?
Are more Mertzzes coming from Toolie Trench, Tennessee?
Look for the answers next month in...
Mayhem with the Mertzzes